

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 SR-02 ORM-03 IO-13 OMB-01 AID-20 DPW-01 DRC-01

/149 W

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R 071120Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6380

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL UDORN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 14027

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, PFOR, SREF, TH, VN

SUBJ: REPATRIATION OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES

REF: BANGKOK 13878

1. BUI TIEN RUNG, GVN EMBASSY COUNSELOR IN BANGKOK, ON SEPTEMBER 7 SUPPORTED OUR IMPRESSION IN REFTEL THAT THE NORTH VIETNAMESE WERE NOT ANXIOUS TO RECEIVE VIETNAMESE REFUGEES FROM THAILAND. HE CITED AN INTERESTING SIDE EFFECT OF THE PUBLICITY CENTERING AROUND THAI BUSINESSMAN SAMPHAO SIRISAMPHAN'S EFFORTS IN PARIS TO OBTAIN THE AIR CONTRACT FOR REPATRIATION. ACCORDING TO RUNG THE NORTH VIETNAMESE COMMUNITY IN NORTHEASTERN THAILAND, THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF WHOM WOULD PREFER TO STAY IN THAILAND, WENT INTO SLIGHT PANIC AT THE NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS. NORTH VIETNAMESE CADRE HAVE ALREADY COLLECTED SEVERAL THOUSAND BAHT PER INFLUENTIAL FAMILY WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT WHEN AND IF THE REPATRIATION LIST COMES OUT, THESE FAMILIES WILL NOT BE ON IT. CORRUPTION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA KNOWS NO IDEOLOGICAL BOUNDARIES.

UNGER

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NNN

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